

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Erhard KREIS et al.

Art Unit: [to be assigned]

Application No.: [to be assigned]

Examiner: [to be assigned]

Filing Date: [on even date herewith]

Attorney Ref. No.: 003-126

For: Seal Arrangement for Reducing the Seal Gaps
within a Rotary Flow Machine

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to taking up this new patent application for action on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly add the following paragraph to the specification:

This application is a continuation of and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to International patent application number PCT/IB02/03862, filed 19 September 2002, and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 to Swiss patent application number 2001 1766/01, filed 25 September 2001, the entireties of both of which are incorporated by reference herein.